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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 09/800,366 | 03/06/2001 | Roland A. Wood | H0001512 (256.087US1) | 3295 |

21186 7590 03/18/2004

SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG, WOESSNER & KLUTH, P.A.
P.O. BOX 2938
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402

| EXAMINER | |
|---|---|
| LEE, SHUN K | |

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|---|---|
| 2878 | |

DATE MAILED: 03/18/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| Advisory Action | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 09/800,366 | WOOD, ROLAND A. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Shun Lee | 2878 | |

*--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --*

THE REPLY FILED 03 March 2004 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.

PERIOD FOR REPLY [check either a) or b)]

a) ☒ The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.

b) ☐ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.
ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

1. ☐ A Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.

2. ☐ The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:

   (a) ☐ they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);

   (b) ☐ they raise the issue of new matter (see Note below);

   (c) ☐ they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or

   (d) ☐ they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

   NOTE: _____.

3. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.

4. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).

5. ☒ The a)☐ affidavit, b)☐ exhibit, or c)☒ request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: *See Continuation Sheet*.

6. ☐ The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.

7. ☒ For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a)☐ will not be entered or b)☒ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

   The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

   Claim(s) allowed: _____.

   Claim(s) objected to: _____.

   Claim(s) rejected: *1-27,29-39*.

   Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

8. ☐ The drawing correction filed on _____ is a)☐ approved or b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

9. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s)( PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____.

10. ☐ Other: _____

CONSTANTINE HANNAHER
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP ART UNIT 2878

Continuation of 5. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: applicant argues that the cited reference does not describes the claimed use of two or more bias pulses during a frame time and cites US Patent 5,420,419 column 3, lines 40-54. Examiner respectfully disagrees. US Patent 5,420,419 column 3, lines 40-54 states "The iris may be closed momentarily (e.g., after camera manufacture, or at camera start-up) to allow the image processor 80 to average several image frames and store this digital data in a long-lived digital memory (which may be in the image processor systems). A simple expedient of a lens cap or shutter may be employed instead, if desired. During normal camera operation the iris 72 remains permanently open, or partially closed if it is desired to reduce the radiation intensity falling on the focal plane. The image processor subtracts the incoming signals from the digital data in its long-lived memory on a pixel-by-pixel basis. This provides offset correction for each pixel in the image to be viewed by a human observer, a requirement and process well known to those in the art". Thus it is clear that the passage cited by applicant relates to obtaining correction data using a process well known to those in the art. Moreover, US Patent 5,420,419 (Wood) Fig. 6 illustrates the effect of the application of pulse bias voltage (two are shown) to the passive elements of the focal plane array over time (see also US 5,420,419 column 6, lines 18-34) and US Patent 5,675,149 (Wood et al.) column 5, lines 47-53 states "If desired, slower slide velocities, or multiple scans of any desired region of the scene, can be employed to allow sensitivity improvement by multiple measurement and averaging of sensor signals: in this case, a stable platform for example, a tripod mounting of the camera may be required, analogous to long exposures of visible photographic still frame cameras". Thus analogous to long exposures of visible photographic still frame cameras, each scan of multiple scans have a pulse bias voltage applied to the focal plane array passive elements wherein the resulting multiple sensor signal measurements are then averaged. Therefore during the exposure time for producing a complete image (i.e., the frame time), the complete image was produced from an average of multiple sensor signal measurements wherein each measurement was obtained by the application of a pulse bias voltage to the focal plane array passive elements.